AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

　　This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

　　1. (Currently Amended) A ~~connection control module of a~~ switching node in a telecommunications network, comprising:

　　a first service control module for issuing a first service request message containing information regarding a requested service;

　　a first~~said~~ connection control module ~~being adapted to communicate to a~~having a first service interface receiving said first service request message from said first service control module and for sending a first link request message~~of said switching node~~, and having a first physical device interface module responsive to said first link request message for establishing connection to a first physical device,

　　a second service control module for issuing a second service request message containing information regarding a requested service;

　　a second connection control module having a second service interface receiving said second service request from said second service control module and for sending a second link request message, and having a second physical device interface module responsive to said second link request message for establishing connection to a second physical device, and

　　~~wherein said connection control module is further adapted to communicate via a connection control interface to at least one other connection control module of said switching~~

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~~node~~a communication channel between said first and second connection control modules by which one of said first and second connection control modules can send to the other of said connection control modules a link request message indicating that a connection is to be made between said first and second physical devices.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching node according to claim 1, wherein said first connection control module communicates with at least one other service control module of said switching node.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching module according to claim ~~3~~1, wherein ~~in case said result of said analysis of~~ said service request message indicates that at least one of a predetermined type of physical device drivers is needed for establishing a connection pertaining to a call, said ~~action consists of~~first service interface ~~generating a physical~~generates said first device interface in response to said first service request message ~~device interface handler module associated to said predetermined type of said physical device drivers for inclusion in said connection control module~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching node according to claim 4, wherein said first ~~physical~~ device interface ~~handler~~ module transmits a resource request

message to an associated resource manager module included in said switching node, <u>and</u> said associated resource manager module selects a physical device driver <u>corresponding to said first physical device</u> from a plurality of physical device drivers of said predetermined type and included in or coupled to said switching node based upon said resource request message.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~<u>switching node</u> according to claim 5, wherein said <u>first</u> physical device interface ~~handler~~ module activates said associated physical device driver, and ~~to~~ confirms said ~~operation~~<u>activation</u> to said <u>first</u> service interface ~~handler~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~<u>switching node</u> according to claim 6, wherein said <u>first</u> service interface ~~handler~~ confirms said ~~operation~~<u>activation</u> to said <u>first</u> service control module.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~<u>switching node</u> according to claim ~~3~~<u>1</u>, wherein in case said ~~result of said analysis of said~~ <u>first</u> service request message indicates that a physical device driver of said switching node is to be removed from an existing call connection, said ~~action consists of~~<u>first service interface</u> deleting an existing physical device interface ~~handler~~ module associated to said physical device driver and included within said connection control module.

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9. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching node according to
claim ~~3~~1, wherein ~~in case said result of said analysis of~~ said first service request message
indicates that the operation of a physical device driver of said switching node is to be modified,
said ~~action consists of~~service interface initiating a state change within an existing physical device
interface ~~handler~~ associated ~~to~~with said physical device driver and included within said
connection control module.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching node according to
claim ~~3~~1, wherein in ~~case said result of said analysis of~~ said first service request message
indicates that said at least one other connection control module is involved, ~~and~~ said first service
interface ~~handler~~ communicates with ~~a~~ said second ~~-~~service interface ~~handler of said at least one
other connection control module~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~switching node according to
claim 10, wherein upon communication with said second service interface ~~handler of said at least~~
~~one other connection control~~ module, said service interface ~~handler~~module communicates with a
physical device interface ~~handler~~module referred to in said first service request message and
included in said first connection control module.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~connection control module~~ according to claim 11,
wherein said physical device interface ~~handler~~module referred to in said service request message

communicates with a second physical device interface ~~handler~~ referred to in said <u>first</u> service

request message and included in said ~~at least one other~~<u>second</u> connection control module.

Claims 13-16. (Canceled)